

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army
Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore
District

In Reply to Application Number
**CENAB-OP-RPA(SELINSGROVE CENTER
WETLAND AND STREAM MITIGATION
SITE)06-00698-12**

PN-06-13

Comment Period: March 13,2006 to March 27,2006

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED AT THIS TIME.

This District has received an application for a Department Of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) as described below:

APPLICANT: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Engineering District 3-0
715 Jordan Avenue
Montoursville, Pennsylvania 17754

LOCATION: Unnamed tributary to Penns Creek, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the Selinsgrove Borough, off Old Colony Road, adjacent to Selinsgrove State Hospital and Snyder County Prison, in Penn Township, Snyder County, Pennsylvania. It consists of 296 acres situated between two ridges.

WORK: To discharge dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands associated with the construction of the Selinsgrove Center Mitigation Site (or Center Site) to mitigate for unavoidable wetland impacts resulting from construction of Section 1 of the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Project and as a future wetland bank. 0.81 acre of wetlands will be permanently impacted, and 0.14 acre will be temporarily impacted by wetland mitigation construction. The natural resource mitigation plan proposes to create 7.89 acres of total wetland establishment (replacement). Thirteen individual replacement basins will be constructed at five distinct locations. The wetland replacements will increase diversity of the site through the addition of more strongly aquatic Palustrine Emergent (PEM) and Palustrine Scrub Shrub (PSS) habitats. In addition to the wetland establishment, approximately 2.7 acres of an existing PEM wetland will be planted with trees and shrubs to establish a Palustrine Forested (PFO) habitat, resulting in a total of 10.55 acres of total wetland mitigation.

The stream mitigation plan proposes 6,123 linear feet of total stream corridor restoration and enhancement.

The terrestrial mitigation plan proposes 152.6 total acres of both grassland (70.2) acres) and forestland (82.4 acres) mitigation and enhancement. Grassland mitigation includes the establishment of 43.9 acres of cool season grass habitat and 26.3 acres of warm season grass habitat. Forest mitigation includes the establishment of 10.5 acres of conifer habitat, the expansion of 38.7 acres of new forest habitat, and the enhancement of 33.2 acres of existing forest habitat.

The purpose of the project is to create wetland, stream, and terrestrial mitigation for the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Project and for a wetland bank.

All work will be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter or would like more detailed plans, please contact Mr. Michael Dombroskie at (814) 235-0571.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonable may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, State College Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 102, State College, Pennsylvania 16801, within the comment period specified above.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean water Act from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection through the issuance of a Section 105 permit or through direct application to the Regional Office in the area of the proposed project. The Section 401 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year in which to make its decision.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.


A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect Federal listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has determined that the Selinsgrove State Colony for Epileptics - Farm Group is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. However, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has determined that the project will have no effect on the property. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

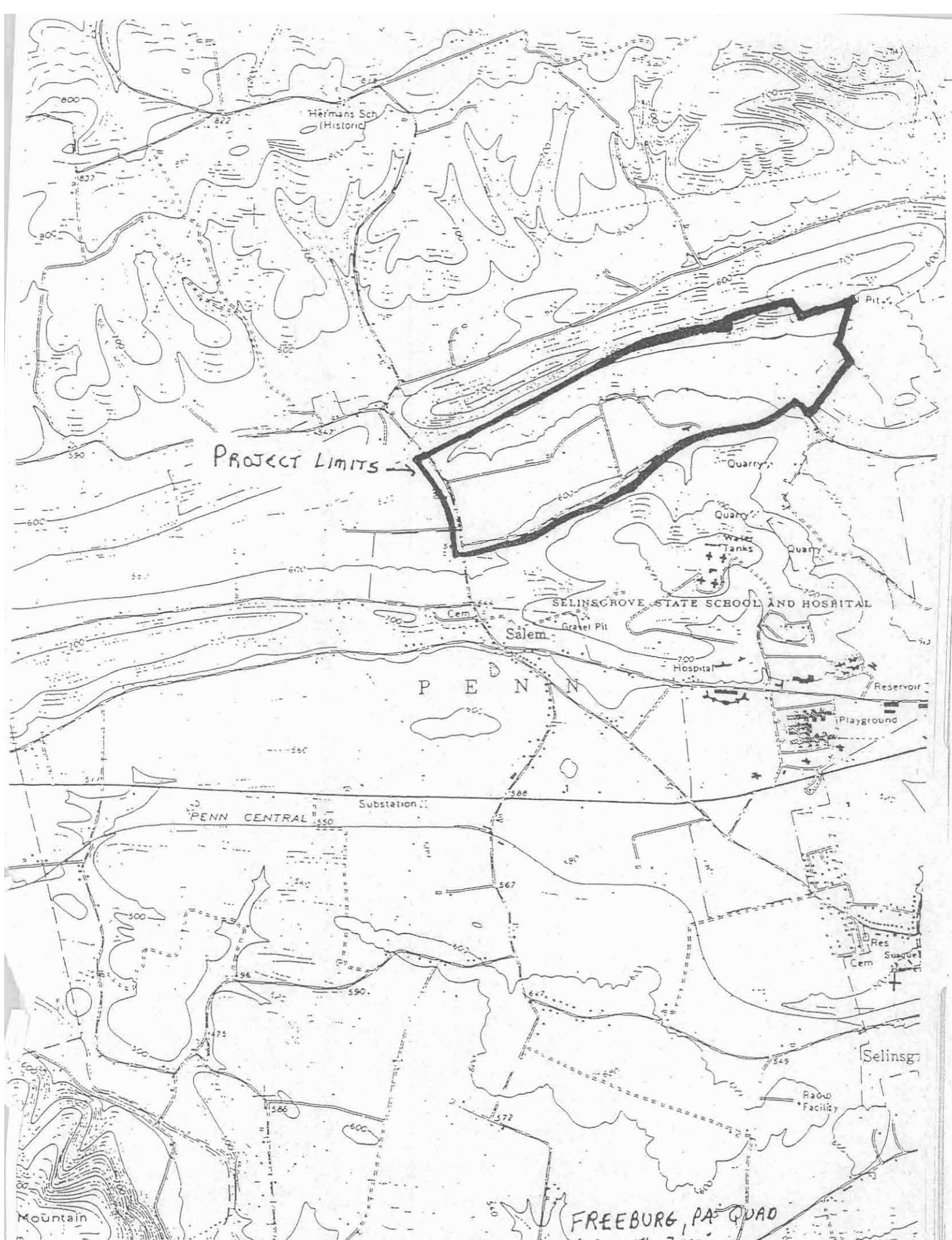
The evaluation of the impact of this project on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, State College Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 102, State College, Pennsylvania 16801, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Also it must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate this information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER



Paul R. Wettlaufer
Transportation Program Manager



WETLAND MITIGATION
Wetland Establishment

Site	Transitional Wetlands	Saturated Flats	Shallow Marsh	Deep Marsh	Total
Site 1	0.19 AC.	0.00 AC.	0.71 AC.	0.66 AC.	1.84 AC.
Site 2	0.12 AC.	0.00 AC.	0.36 AC.	0.17 AC.	0.83 AC.
Site 5	0.10 AC.	0.07 AC.	0.67 AC.	0.44 AC.	1.28 AC.
Site 7 - 8	0.06 AC.	0.99 AC.	0.13 AC.	0.00 AC.	1.18 AC.
Site 9	0.18 AC.	2.22 AC.	0.33 AC.	0.00 AC.	2.76 AC.
Total	0.65 AC.	3.28 AC.	2.20 AC.	1.31 AC.	7.89 AC.

STREAM MITIGATION

Total Stream Mitigation: 6123 LF
In-Stream Restoration and Enhancement: 2178 LF
Streambank Restoration: 3945 LF

TERRESTRIAL MITIGATION

Total Terrestrial Mitigation: 43.9 AC.
Cool Season Grasses: 26.3 AC.
Warm Season Grasses: 10.2 AC.
Conifer Row and Block Planting: 10.5 AC.
Forest Expansion: 36.7 AC.
Forest Enhancement: 33.2 AC.
Total Forest Mitigation: 82.4 AC.

Total Wetland Establishment: 7.89 AC.
Wetland Transforms: 2.66 AC.
TOTAL WETLAND MITIGATION: 10.55 AC.

SUMMARY OF WETLAND IMPACTS

TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACTS DURING
CONSTRUCTION = 0.14 ACRES
PERMANENT WETLAND IMPACTS BY WETLAND
MITIGATION CONSTRUCTION = 0.81 ACRES

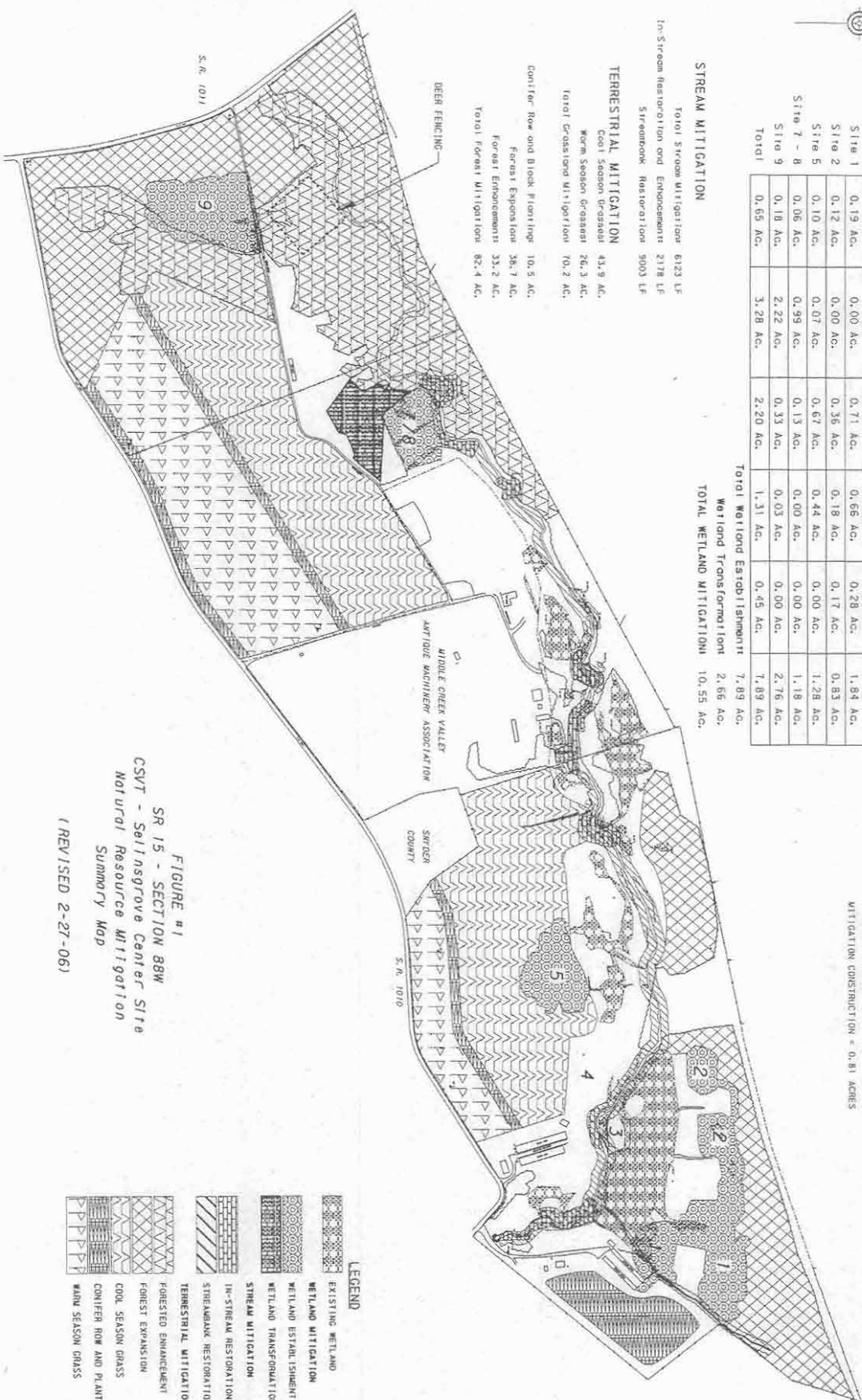


FIGURE #1
SR 15 - SECTION 88W
CSVT - Seilinsgrove Center Site
Natural Resource Mitigation
Summary Map
(REVISED 2-27-06)

- LEGEND
- EXISTING WETLAND
 - WETLAND MITIGATION
 - WETLAND ESTABLISHMENT
 - WETLAND TRANSFORMATION (FEW -> PFD)
 - STREAM MITIGATION
 - IN-STREAM RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT
 - STREAMBANK RESTORATION
 - TERRESTRIAL MITIGATION
 - FORESTED ENHANCEMENT
 - FOREST EXPANSION
 - COOL SEASON GRASS
 - CONIFER ROW AND PLANTING
 - WARM SEASON GRASS

SCALE IN FEET
0 250 500

DISTRICT	COUNTY	ROUTE	SECTION	SHEET
3-0	SHULER	0015	008	
REVISIONS				
DATE				